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ACTING GOVERNOR'S LUNAR NEW YEAR MESSAGE 1987

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ALL OVER HONG KONG, AT THIS SHORT BREAK IN THE YEAR, FAMILIES WILL BE GATHERING TOGETHER. IT IS A TIME TO REFLECT ON HOW WE HAVE FARED IN THE YEAR THAT HAS PASSED, TO THINK ABOUT OUR HOPES AND PLANS FOR THE YEAR AHEAD AND THE TASKS THAT LIE BEFORE US.

AT THE END OF THE YEAR WE CAN SAY WITH CONFIDENCE THAT WE HAVE COME THROUGH IN MUCH BETTER SHAPE THAN WE DARED HOPE AT THE BEGINNING. IT HAS BEEN A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT; WE ARE BUILDING FOR THE LONG-TERM FUTURE WITH RENEWED VIGOUR; THERE HAS BEEN WORK FOR EVERYONE; OUR ORDER BOOKS ARE FULL; OUR HOTEL ROOMS ARE FULL; BUSINESS IS GENERALLY GOOD.

OUR EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE AND CONSULTATIVE BODIES HAVE DEALT EFFECTIVELY AND AUTHORITATIVELY WITH VITAL ISSUES WHICH ARE OF CONCERN TO US ALL.

WORK WHICH WILL SET THE FUTURE IN PLACE AFTER 1997 IS BEING METHODICALLY AND PROFICIENTLY CARRIED OUT ON MANY COMPLEX ISSUES: LAND, PASSPORTS, TRADE, THE BASIC LAW. RELATIONS WITH OUR NEIGHBOURS IN GUANGDONG ARE BECOMING STEADILY STRONGER.

AS WE LOOK AROUND A TROUBLED WORLD WE HAVE MUCH TO BE THANKFUL FOR AND, AS WE OFTEN SAY WITH AFFECTION, +THERE IS NO PLACE LIKE HONG KONG.+

TO KEEP UP THE IMPETUS IS A GOOD RESOLUTION FOR THE YEAR THAT LIES AHEAD. OVERSEAS WE MUST FIGHT HARD TO DEFEND OUR FREEDOM TO TRADE; AT HOME WE NEED TO ACT PRUDENTLY AND WISELY TO ENSURE THAT INDUSTRY AND THE ECONOMY ARE GIVEN SUPPORT; WE NEED TO TAKE A HARD LOOK AT HOW WE CAN SATISFY THE DEEP-SEATED WISH OF FAMILIES TO OWN THEIR OWN HOMES; WE NEED TO PROVIDE BETTER SOCIAL AND MEDICAL SERVICES; AND OUR SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES MUST GIVE YOUNG PEOPLE FULL OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP THEIR TALENTS AND TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF OUR ONLY RESOURCE -- PEOPLE.

DURING THE COURSE OF THIS YEAR WE WILL HAVE TO AGREE, AS A COMMUNITY ON THE NEXT STEPS TO TAKE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR GOVERNMENT.

THERE IS MUCH TO BE DONE, THERE WILL ALWAYS BE DOUBTERS, BUT I BELIEVE THE VAST MAJORITY OF HONG KONG PEOPLE WILL WORK TO ENSURE THAT +THERE IS NO PLACE LIKE HONG KONG.+

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TRADE CHIEF URGES JAPAN TO REDRESS IMBALANCE

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THE TWO-WAY TRADE GAP BETWEEN HONG KONG AND JAPAN REMAINS OVERWHELMINGLY IN THE LATTER'S FAVOUR DESPITE AN ENCOURAGING GROWTH IN THE TERRITORY'S EXPORTS TO JAPAN LAST YEAR, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR ERIC HO TOLD JAPANESE OFFICIALS IN TOKYO TODAY (TUESDAY).

MR HO HAS BEEN HAVING TALKS WITH THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR TADASHI KURANARI, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC MEASURES OF THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY, MR MASUMI ESAKI, AND EXPERTS FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

WHILE EXPRESSING SATISFACTION WITH THE ENCOURAGING GROWTH IN THE TERRITORY'S EXPORTS TO JAPAN IN 1986, HE POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS ON A VERY SMALL BASE AND THAT THE OVERALL TRADE GAP REMAINED IN FAVOUR OF JAPAN.

FURTHER EFFORTS WERE NEEDED, HE SUGGESTED, TO REDRESS THIS BALANCE -- NOT THROUGH ANY REDUCTION OF JAPAN'S EXPORTS TO HONG KONG, BUT BY ENCOURAGING JAPANESE FIRMS TO FOLLOW VALUE FOR MONEY PRINCIPLES BY IMPORTING MORE FROM HONG KONG.

HE ALSO WELCOME MORE JAPANESE INVESTMENT IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY AS A MEANS OF DIVERSIFYING HONG KONG INDUSTRY AND OF INCREASING ITS IMPORTS BACK TO JAPAN.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF TRADE (DESIGNATE), MR MICHAEL SZE, MR HO IS VISITING TOKYO TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST WITH SENIOR JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVES, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE NEED FOR JAPAN TO INCREASE MARKET ACCESS FOR HER TRADING PARTNERS, THE PRESSURES FOR PROTECTIONISM IN THE UNITED STATES, AND OTHER MULTI-LATERAL ISSUES SUCH AS THE URUGUAY ROUND OF TRADE NEGOTIATIONS IN GATT.

COMMENTING ON THE MEETINGS, MR HO SAID: +I EMPHASISED THAT AS ONE OF JAPAN'S MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS WE LOOKED ON JAPAN AS A LARGELY UNTAPPED MARKET FOR A RANGE OF QUALITY GOODS HONG KONG IS MAKING AND EXPORTING TO OTHER SOPHISTICATED MARKETS. OUR SUCCESS HERE WOULD HAVE AN EFFECT ON HER TRADE SURPLUSES AND ON INTERNATIONAL PERCEPTIONS OF THE OPENNESS OF THE JAPANESE MARKET IN GOODS AND SERVICES.+

HONG KONG IS JAPAN'S SIXTH BIGGEST EXPORT MARKET AND, AFTER THE UNITED STATES AND WEST GERMANY, JAPAN'S BIGGEST TRADE SURPLUS IS WITH HONG KONG.

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ISRAEL, HUNGARY RECOGNISE BN(O) PASSPORT

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THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IS DELIGHTED WITH THE NEWS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL HAS DECIDED TO ACCEPT THE BRITISH NATIONAL (OVERSEAS) STATUS AND THE PASSPORT THAT GOES WITH IT, ACCORDING TO A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IT HAS ALSO BEEN INFORMED BY THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF HUNGARY HAS ALSO DECIDED TO RECOGNISE THE BRITISH NATIONAL (OVERSEAS) PASSPORT.

THESE BRING TO EIGHT THE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE GIVEN THE BN(O) PASSPORT FORMAL RECOGNITION.

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NEW MEMBER FOR EDUCATION COMMISSION

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THE APPOINTMENT OF MR LAU WAH-SUM AS A MEMBER OF THE EDUCATION COMMISSION.

MR LAU, A FORMER CIVIL SERVANT, IS AN ACCOUNTANT BY PROFESSION AND RUNS HIS OWN FINANCIAL AND MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT FIRM. HE HAS BEEN THE TREASURER OF THE COUNCIL OF THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE SINCE 1984 AND IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR THE THIRD UNIVERSITY.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF MR LAU, THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION HAS INCREASED TO 15. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE APPOINTMENT OF AN ACCOUNTANT TO THE COMMISSION WOULD ASSIST THE COMMISSION IN THE INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF ITS WORK; IN PARTICULAR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMPUTER MODELS FOR ANALYSING EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS WHICH FORMS ONE OF THE KEY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION'S RECENTLY PUBLISHED REPORT NO 2.

+MR LAU'S APPOINTMENT WILL LAST INITIALLY UNTIL MARCH 31, 1987, WHEN THE TERMS OF OFFICE OF THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION EXPIRES,+ HE SAID.

THE EDUCATION COMMISSION, HEADED BY MR Q.W. LEE, IS CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEFINING OVERALL EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES AND FORMULATING EDUCATION POLICY, HAVING REGARD TO RESOURCES AVAILABLE. IN CARRYING OUT ITS TASK, THE COMMISSION COORDINATES THE WORK OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE AND THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

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RE-APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCED

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE ACTING GOVERNOR HAS RE-APPOINTED MR GORDON MACWHINNIE AND MR ANDREW SO KWOK-WING AS MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS WITH EFFECT FROM JANUARY 24.

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SAI KUNG FESTIVAL STARTS NEXT WEEK

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SAI KUNG DISTRICT RESIDENTS WILL BE TREATED TO FIVE DAYS OF FUN AND ENTERTAINMENT WHEN THE DISTRICT FESTIVAL STARTS ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 2).

A VARIETY OF SPORTS, RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES WILL BE HELD AT THE SAI KUNG TOWN HALL, TANG SHIU KIN SPORTS GROUND, RENNIE'S MILL SECONDARY SCHOOL AND MAN YEE PLAYGROUND.

A SPOKESMAN OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FESTIVAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE SAID ABOUT $187 000, OF WHICH $75 000 WAS FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD, WOULD BE SPENT ON STAGING 12 PROGRAMMES FOR PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT AGES AND INTERESTS.

SINCE THE FESTIVAL COINCIDES WITH THE LUNAR NEW YEAR, HE SAID THAT THESE PROGRAMMES WOULD ADD MORE COLOUR AND FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE TO THE NEW YEAR.

+BY PARTICIPATING IN THESE ACTIVITIES, RESIDENTS WOULD BE ABLE TO INSTILL A SENSE OF BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT AND UPHOLD A HIGH COMMUNITY SPIRIT,+ HE ADDED.

THE FESTIVAL WILL BE LAUNCHED WITH A NEW YEAR MARATHON FROM THE LADY MACLEHOSE HOLIDAY VILLAGE TO THE TANG SHIU KIN SPORTS GROUND.

THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE FESTIVAL WILL FOLLOW AT THE FINISHING POINT OF THE MARATHON. SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR KEVIN HO, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FESTIVAL WILL BE A DISCO NIGHT TO BE HELD AT THE SAI KUNG TOWN HALL ON FEBRUARY 3. REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED AND COUPLE TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT $10 EACH.

THE CLOSING CEREMONY ON FEBRUARY 6 AT SAI KUNG TOWN HALL WILL FEATURE SINGING, DANCING, +HEI KUNG+ PERFORMANCE (A TYPE OF MARTIAL ARTS EXERCISE) AND CANTONESE OPERA. THESE WILL BE PERFORMED BY STUDENTS, SAI KUNG CHILDREN CHOIR MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM LOCAL RECREATIONAL BODIES.

/OTHER PROGRAMMES .....

OTHER PROGRAMMES IN THE FESTIVAL INCLUDE A VARIETY SHOW, CONCERTS, CANTONESE OPERA, CARNIVALS, SPORTS DAY, FILM SHOWS AND A FOOTBALL MATCH.

ADMISSIONS TO THE PROGRAMMES, EXCEPT THE DISCO NIGHT, WILL BE FREE. TICKETS FOR THE PROGRAMMES AND PAMPHLETS CONTAINING THE DETAILS OF THE FESTIVAL ARE OBTAINABLE AT THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, RURAL COMMITTEE OFFICES, RENNIE'S MILL SERVICE CENTRE AND ALL THE MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE OFFICES.

THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FESTIVAL IS ORGANISED BY A PREPARATORY COMMITTEE WHICH WAS FORMED IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR. SEVEN WORKING GROUPS UNDER THE COMMITTEE WERE ALSO FORMED TO TAKE CHARGE OF PROGRAMMES, ARTS, PUBLICITY, TRANSPORT, DECORATION, FUND RAISING AND MAINTAINING THE ORDER OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE FESTIVAL.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE INCLUDE DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, LEADING PERSONALITIES, REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE RURAL COMMITTEES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS SUCH AS DISTRICT OFFICE, REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE POLICE FORCE AND SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

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KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT SUPPORTS YOUDE FUND

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THE SIR EDWARD YOUDE FUND TODAY (TUESDAY) RECEIVED DONATIONS TOTALLING $205 000 FROM MEMBERS OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD, AREA COMMITTEES, DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS AND RESIDENTS.

AT A CEREMONY HELD AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR WONG SIK-KONG, PRESENTED A LARGE-SIZED CHEQUE TO THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALEX FONG, ON BEHALF OF THE DONORS.

MR FONG THANKED THE DONORS AND APPEALED TO THE PUBLIC, PARTICULARLY KOWLOON CITY RESIDENTS, TO CONTINUE SUPPORTING THE FUND.

CHAIRMEN OF THE AREA COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS WERE INVITED TO THE PRESENTATION.

THE +TVB CARE TEAM+, HEADED BY MISS LILY CHUNG AND EDDIE CHEUNG, ALSO ATTENDED THE PRESENTATION TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE FUND.

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WIDENING OF KEUNG SHAN ROAD PROPOSED

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SECTIONS OF KEUNG SHAN ROAD IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF LANTAU ISLAND ARE TO BE WIDENED TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW BETWEEN CHEUNG SHA AND KEUNG SHAN.

WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT AT MILESTONES 10, 10-1/2, 10-3/4 AND 12, TOTALLING 720 METRES, TO BECOME A STANDARD TWO-LANE CARRIAGEWAY.

FOOTPATHS, RAILINGS AND BARRIER FENCES WILL BE PROVIDED ALONG THE SECTIONS.

ON COMPLETION THE WHOLE STRETCH OF THE ROAD WILL HAVE A MINIMUM WIDTH OF SIX METRES.

OTHER WORK WILL INVOLVE CONSTRUCTING SEVERAL RETAINING WALLS AND ASSOCIATED DRAINAGE.

OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED WORK SHOULD BE SENT IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT BY MARCH 24.

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CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS APPOINTED TO NEW GRADE

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IN ORDER TO MEET THE DEMAND OF CORRECTIONAL WORK, 21 VETERAN ASSISTANT OFFICERS OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WERE TODAY (TUESDAY) FORMALLY APPOINTED OFFICERS OF A NEW GRADE.

PRESENTING BADGES OF RANK TO THE NEW APPOINTEES AT THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF TRAINING INSTITUTE AT STANLEY, THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR CHAN WA-SHEK, SAID THE UNPRECEDENTED IN-SERVICE APPOINTMENT +WILL PROVIDE MUCH-NEEDED REINFORCEMENT TO OUR EVER CHALLENGING CORRECTIONAL WORK, PARTICULARLY IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE MORE SOPHISTICATED, VIOLENT AND LONG-TERM PRISONERS+.

THE OBJECT OF SUCH IN-SERVICE APPOINTMENT IS TO ENABLE THE DEPARTMENT TO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE RECOGNISED PROFESSIONAL ASSETS OF EXTREMELY EXPERIENCED AND CAPABLE ASSISTANT OFFICERS I, WHO HAVE SHOWN THE POTENTIAL TO SHOULDER ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITES AT OFFICER LEVEL, BUT HAVE SO FAR BEEN DEBARRED FROM BEING SO EMPLOYED THROUGH NOT HAVING THE REQUIRED ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION.

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GRAVE STONE CARVING SITES TO LET

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NINETEEN SITES IN CHAI WAN FOR CARVING GRAVE STONES ARE TO BE OFFERED ON SHORT-TERM TENANCY BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT.

THE SITES, AT THE JUNCTION OF LIN SHING AND CAPE COLLINSON ROADS, HAVE INDIVIDUAL AREAS OF BETWEEN 42 AND 85 SQUARE METRES.

THEY CAN ALSO BE USED FOR STORING GRAVE STONES AND RELATED OPERATIONS.

TENANCIES ARE FOR ONE YEAR, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY AFTERWARDS.

TENDERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY NOON ON FEBRUARY 13.

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MANPOWER SURVEY REPORTS PUBLISHED

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THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL HAS PUBLISHED TWO MANPOWER SURVEY REPORTS WITH COMPREHENSIVE DATA ON THE MANPOWER AND TRAINING SITUATION OF THE HOTEL, CATERING AND TOURISM TRADES AND THE MASS MEDIA INDUSTRY.

OTHER DETAILS ON THE TRAINING NEEDS AND MANPOWER FORECAST OF THE TWO SECTORS ARE ALSO CONTAINED IN THE REPORTS.

THE 1985 MANPOWER SURVEY REPORT ON THE HOTEL, CATERING AND TOURISM SECTORS AND THE 1985 MANPOWER SURVEY REPORT ON THE MASS MEDIA INDUSTRY, IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, ARE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE IN CENTRAL AT $64 AND $19.50 PER COPY RESPECTIVELY.

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PRIZES FOR TOP CATCHES OF THE YEAR

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THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, WILL PRESENT PRIZES TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO 26 FISHERMEN WHO LANDED THE TOP CATCHES IN THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION WHOLESALE MARKETS LAST YEAR.

AMONG THE RECIPIENTS, SIX WILL ALSO RECEIVE AWARDS FOR WINNING THE TITLES OF CHAMPION FISHERMEN OF THE YEAR.

DURING THE CEREMONY, TO BE HELD IN THE ABERDEEN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET AT 102, SHEK PAI WAN ROAD AT 11 AM, DR LEE WILL PRESENT CERTIFICATES TO SEVEN OTHER FISHERMEN FOR THEIR BRAVERY IN SAVING 29 PEOPLE AT SEA.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY.

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EXERCISE SELF-DISCIPLINE FOR FLOWER FAIR VISIT

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC GOING TO THE FLOWER FAIR AT VICTORIA PARK ON LUNAR NEW YEAR'S EVE (WEDNESDAY) ARE URGED TO EXERCISE COMMON SENSE AND SELF-DISCIPLINE IN THE USE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: +ALTHOUGH OPERATIONAL HOURS OF MOST PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES WILL BE EXTENDED, CROWDS CANNOT BE CLEARED ALL AT ONCE IN VIEW OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING THE FLOWER FAIR.+

HE APPEALED TO THE PUBLIC LEAVING THE FAIR SITE NOT TO OVERBURDEN TRANSPORT SERVICES, PARTICULARLY AFTER 2 AM WHEN KMB STARTS ITS FREE SERVICES.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE PEAK HOUR OF THE LATE NIGHT SERVICES IS EXPECTED TO BE BETWEEN 2 AM AND 3 AM, BUT SINCE THE FREE SERVICES WILL RUN UP TO 6 AM, PEOPLE SHOULD EXERCISE FLEXIBILITY AND SPREAD OUT THEIR HOMEWARD JOURNEYS.

BUS USERS WERE ALSO ADVISED THAT THE SEVEN MAINLAND SERVICES 5, 6, 59M, 68M, 70, 70M AND 82M AND FOUR CROSS-HARBOUR SERVICES 111A, 112A, 121 AND 122 OPERATED BY KMB WOULD BE FREE OF CHARGE FROM 2 AM.

/HOWEVER, CMB .....

HOWEVER, CMB WOULD BE CHARGING FARES OF $3 FOR ITS ROUTES 304 AND 308 AND $4 FOR CROSS-HARBOUR ROUTES 111A, 112A, 121 AND 122.

+TO DISTINGUISH BUSES OFFERING FREE RIDES AND THOSE CHARGING FARES, COMMUTERS SHOULD LOOK OUT FOR POSTERS DISPLAYED ON THE WINDOWS OF EACH BUS BEFORE BOARDING,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE HOPED THAT TRAVELLERS WOULD APPRECIATE THAT IN VIEW OF THE LIMITED CAPACITY AVAILABLE ON FREE SERVICES, PASSENGERS SHOULD NOT AVOID FARE PAYING BUSES OR OTHER TRANSPORT MODES.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHE KUNG FESTIVAL

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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN SHA TIN FROM 8 PM ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 30) TO 6 PM THE FOLLOWING DAY IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHE KUNG FESTIVAL.

THE SECTION OF CHE KUNG MIU ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH SHA TIN TAU ROAD AND CHUI TIN STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES AND EMERGENCY VEHICLES. AT THE SAME TIME, THE TWO BUS STOPS ON THIS SECTION OF CHE KUNG MIU ROAD WILL BE SUSPENDED.

TRAFFIC HEADING FOR HIN TIN AND TIN SAM WILL BE DIVERTED VIA LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD AND HUNG MUI KUK ROAD. TAXIS WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING CHUI TIN STREET AND TEMPORARY STOPPING PLACES FOR TAXIS WILL BE PROVIDED AT TAI WAI INTERIM TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE AND IN SHA TIN TAU ROAD NEAR CHE KUNG TEMPLE.

DURING THE FESTIVAL, BUS AND TRAIN SERVICES WILL BE STEPPED UP TO COPE WITH PASSENGER DEMAND.

WORSHIPPERS GOING TO CHE KUNG TEMPLE ARE ADVISED TO USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT AS THE CAR PARK IN CHUI TIN STREET WILL BE SUSPENDED AND THE NUMBER OF PARKING SPACES IN THE VICINITY IS LIMITED.

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SPECIAL TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS FOR FIREWORKS DISPLAY

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SPECIAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ON FRIDAY (JANUARY 30) FOR THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FIREWORKS DISPLAY TO BE HELD IN VICTORIA HARBOUR THAT EVENING.

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT REMINDED THE PUBLIC TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES WILL BE STRENGTHENED BEFORE AND AFTER THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY BEGINS AT 8 PM AND RESIDENTS GOING TO WATCH THE EVENT SHOULD USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT.

/ABOUT TWO .....

ABOUT TWO HOURS BEFORE THE DISPLAY BEGINS, CMB ROUTES TO CENTRAL WILL BE RE-ROUTED TO AVOID THE CLOSED ROADS IN THE AREA. THESE INCLUDE ROUTES 8, 11A, 21, 24 AND 40.

ROUTES 8, 15, 38, 40, 40M, 70 AND 72 WILL STEP UP SERVICES, WHILE ROUTE 780 WILL BE CURTAILED AT 5.25 PM.

MEANWHILE, THE TSIM SHA TSUI BUS TERMINAL OF KMB BUSES WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED AND REPLACEMENT TERMINALS WILL BE PROVIDED NEARBY. KMB ROUTES TO STAR FERRY BUS TERMINUS WILL BE DIVERTED. THESE INCLUDE 1, 1A, 2, 2C, 5, 5C, 6, 6A, 7, 8, 9, 26, 28, AND A1.

BUS SERVICES TO JORDAN ROAD BUS TERMINUS - 3, 3C, 3E, 4A, 8, 8A, 13, 60X, 68, 68X, 70 AND 71 - WILL ALSO BE RE-ROUTED. IN ADDITION, ROUTES 5A AND 208 WILL BE SUSPENDED ABOUT TWO HOURS BEFORE THE DISPLAY BEGINS.

COMMUTERS ARE ALSO REMINDED THAT ALL THE TSIM SHA TSUI ENTRANCES OF THE MTR - EXCEPT CAMERON ROAD ENTRANCE - WILL BE USED FOR OUTGOING PASSENGERS ONLY TWO HOURS BEFORE THE START OF THE EVENT.

MTR SERVICES WILL MAINTAIN A THREE-MINUTE FREQUENCY ON TSUEN WAN LINE AND KWUN TONG LINE; AND A THREE-AND-A-HALF MINUTE SERVICE ON THE ISLAND LINE.

AS FOR FERRY SERVICES, THE HYF WAN CHAI - JORDAN ROAD SERVICE WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 7.20 PM TO 8.40 PM AND THE WAN CHAI - HUNG HOM SERVICE FROM 7.15 PM TO 8.45 PM.

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PUBLIC TRANSPORT CHANGES IN MA ON SHAN

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THE FERRY SERVICE BETWEEN MA LIU SHUI AND MA ON SHAN WILL BE CANCELLED FROM THURSDAY (JANUARY 29) TO FACILITATE RECLAMATION WORK IN THE AREA.

ON THE CANCELLATION OF THE FERRY SERVICE, THE EXISTING NEW TERRITORIES GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 67K PLYING FROM SHA TIN KCR STATION TO AH KUNG KOK WILL BE EXTENDED TO TERMINATE NEAR THE ROUNDABOUT AT THE JUNCTION OF MA ON SHAN ROAD AND HANG HONG STREET UNTIL FEBRUARY 1.

THIS GREEN MINIBUS SERVICE WILL OPERATE FROM 7 AM TO 7.30 PM AT A FREQUENCY OF 60 MINUTES. THE FARE WILL BE $2.5 PER SINGLE JOURNEY.

FROM FEBRUARY 2, A NEW BUS ROUTE, 85K, WILL BE INTRODUCED TO LINK HANG ON ESTATE IN MA ON SHAN WITH SHA TIN KCR STATION. THE NEW SERVICE WILL OPERATE FROM 6 AM TO 11.30 PM AT A FREQUENCY OF 30 MINUTES. THE FARE WILL BE $1.20.

IN ADDITION, ANOTHER NEW ROUTE, 89C, OPERATING BETWEEN HANG ON ESTATE AND KWUN TONG WILL BE INTRODUCED AT THE END OF FEBRUARY.

FROM 6 AM ON FEBRUARY 2, THESE NEW BUS SERVICES WILL TERMINATE AT THE HANG ON BUS TERMINUS WHICH WILL BE DESIGNATED A PROHIBITED ZONE FOR ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES.

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